

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-27 are pending in the application, and the Examiner rejected all claims. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below, and reconsideration of all rejected claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §103

On pages 2-22 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,848,080, issued to Lee (hereinafter referred to as "Lee") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0029455, issued to Chin et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Chin"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections of these claims.

The Examiner has identified features for each of the independent claims that are not disclosed or suggested by Lee. For example, claim 15, which is the first claim addressed by the Examiner, recites displaying a menu screen indicating registered dictionaries when the keyword is detected by said detecting a keyword; and wherein said search request for dictionary data specified by the keyword is issued with respect to a plurality of dictionaries which are selected as search targets while characters of the candidate character string are being input by a user. The Examiner acknowledges that no such features are disclosed or suggested in Lee, but alleges that such features are disclosed in Chin.

However, the Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not identified such features in Chin. Repeatedly throughout the action the Examiner instructs the Applicants to "See Section 1 Page 2 through Section 3 Page 4 'Language Dropdown' and 'Browser Frame'" (for example the last two lines of page 5 of the action). However, no such sections or terms appear on the cited pages, nor apparently throughout the application. Chin is a published U.S. Patent Application, and as such has easily identifiable paragraph numbers that are the standard identifiers for referring to various passages. However, as previously stated, no such paragraph numbers are cited in the action, which leads the Applicants to believe that perhaps the Examiner has identified the wrong reference, and is perhaps referring to a journal article or other similar reference.

Further, the terms offered by the Examiner in quotation marks, "Language Dropdown" and "Browser Frame", are presumably some sort of section headers, and do not appear in Chin.

The Applicants have performed a word search of a soft copy of the Chin reference, and such terms are not found.

The Examiner also included an illustration on page 6 that is apparently allegedly from Chin. However, no such illustration is found anywhere in Chin.

The Examiner also referenced "Page 3 Section 'Translated Multilingual Search Engine'" in Chin, although no such section exists on any page in Chin, and certainly not on page 3. A word search also failed to produce any positive results for the term "Translated Multilingual Search Engine".

All of this evidence leads the Applicants to believe that the Examiner has perhaps misidentified the reference upon which he relies. While the MPEP instructs that the Examiner's rejections are based on the whole of the cited reference, and is not constrained to the actual cited portions, the Applicants respectfully submit that the multiple references to non-existent sections, corresponding page numbers, and illustrations can only lead to the logical conclusion that the Examiner is referencing an altogether different document.

As such, the Applicants respectfully submit that the current Office Action is faulty, and the Examiner has therefore not provided proper rejections of the presently presented claims. Further, the Applicants' representative has attempted to discuss the problem with the Examiner on at least two occasions by telephone, and on each occasion the Examiner has refused to discuss the issue, instead alleging that it is the Applicants' responsibility to respond to the action in writing. Thus, because of the apparently erroneous content of the action and the Examiner's consistent refusal to clarify the reference upon which he relies, or even look at the action to consider whether he has mistakenly listed the reference, the Applicants respectfully submit that the current Office Action is improper, and should be withdrawn. At the very least, the Applicants respectfully submit that any immediately subsequent action after this Response cannot be properly made final, as the Applicants have not been given a proper opportunity to respond to the Examiner's rejections, since the Examiner has cited nonexistent passages and figures from the reference.

The Examiner repeats the same citations and arguments throughout the action for all of the rejected claims. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not met the prima facie burden of §103 rejections of claim 1-27, and further respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections.

Summary

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

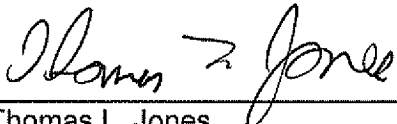
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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